GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2644
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016
Crime against Women and Children
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various types of crimes including atrocities against women and children are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of such cases reported/registered, guilty arrested/convicted, cases solved / unsolved, conviction rate achieved and the steps taken to solve all the pending cases and to improve upon the conviction rate of such cases along with the action taken against the guilty during each of the last three years and the current year, crime and State-wise including rape, gang rape, molestation, eve-teasing, murder and abduction;

(c) the role of the National Commission for Women and the steps taken by the Commission in checking crime against women in the country;

(d) whether the Supreme Court has recently condemned the Government for under utilization of the Nirbhaya Fund in the country, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to conduct workshops in various parts of the country to control such cases and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate safety of women and children along with advisories issued to States and police departments in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) & (b): As per information provided by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), an increase of 9.2% and 53.6% in cases registered under crimes against women (from 3,09,546 in 2013 to 3,37,922 cases in 2014) and crimes against children (from 58,224 cases in 2013 to 89,423 cases in 2014) were reported during 2014 over 2013 respectively. Crime head wise cases reported, cases chargesheeted, cases unsolved (cases in which final report submitted as true), cases convicted, cases conviction rate, cases pending for trial, cases in which trial completed, persons arrested, persons chargesheeted and persons convicted under crime against women and children during 2012-2014 is enclosed at Annexure-I. State/UT wise similar information under total crime against women & children during 2012-2014 is enclosed at Annexure-II. State/UT wise cases reported under gang rape during 2014 is enclosed at Annexure-III.

(c): The main task of the National Commission for Women (NCW) is to study and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and legal

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safeguards provided for women, to review the existing legislations and suggest amendments, wherever necessary. The Commission is also mandated to look into the complaints and take suomotu notice of the cases involving deprivation of the rights of women in order to provide support, legal or otherwise, to helpless women. The Commission is also mandated to monitor the proper implementation of all the legislations made to protect the rights of women so as to enable them to achieve equality in all spheres of life and equal participation in the development of the nation.

To achieve its mandate the Commission is undertaking the following activities:-

(i) The Commission takes up complaints of non-implementation of laws/deprivation of women rights enacted to provide protection to women by seeking reports from the concerned authorities.

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The details of complaints registered with the Commission and processed during each of the last three years and the current year is as below:

Year No. of Cases registered
2013-2014 22422
2014-2015 32118
2015-2016 24379

(ii) NCW takes suomotu cognizance on various media reports of serious/heinous crimes against women

(iii) NCW conducts Legal Awareness Programmes in collaboration with colleges/ Universities.

(iv) NCW organizes Capacity Building for Women Police Officers from ranks of ASI/SI/Dy. Superintendent/ Superintendent to ensure proper investigation in crimes against women. The course includes understanding of Sexual Harassment at workplace Act,
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Criminal Amendment Act 2013, Cyber Crimes and their Investigation, Forensic examination and scene of crime investigation.

(v) NCW from time to time review various legislations and propose new laws to ensure legal and constitutional rights of women and their empowerment.

(d): Government has not received any such direction in this regard.

(e) & (f): National Commission for Women conducts from time to tome seminars/ workshops/ research studies/ consultations of various issues concerning women.

The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2013, which has come into force since 3rd Feb, 2013 on crimes against women, has enhanced punishment for crimes like rape, sexual harassment, stalking, voyeurism, acid attacks, indecent gestures like words and inappropriate touch etc. The
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new law has provisions for increased sentence for rape convicts, including life term and death sentence, besides providing for stringent punishment for offences such as acid attacks, stalking and voyeurism.

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, has come into effect from 14th November, 2012 as a special law to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been administering various laws relating to women such as the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005; Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961; Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986; and the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 (PCMA). The Ministry has also enacted the Juvenile Justice (care and protection of children) Act, 2000, commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.
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Ministry of Women and Child Development has also introduced scheme of One Stop Centre to provide integrated support and assistance to women affected by violence and a Scheme for Universalisation of Women Helpline to provide 24 hours immediate and emergency response to women affected by violence. To address the issue of declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR), in age group of 0-6 years, Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) programme has been launched.

As per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects and, as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime lies with the States/UT Administrations.

Ministry of Home Affairs has issued advisories on 04.09.2009, 14.7.2010, 5.1.2015, 20.4.2015 and 12.05.2015 on Crime against women and crime against children to all State Governments/UTs. These advisories have advised State Governments to adopt appropriate measures for swift and salutary punishment to the persons found guilty of violence against
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women and children, set up Fast Track Courts, Family Courts, Crime against Women/Children desks in each Police Station, improve the quality of investigations, minimize delays in investigations of crime against women and children and to undertake gender sensitization of the police personnel. These advisories specifically direct the States/UTs that "cases should be thoroughly investigated and chargesheets against the accused persons should be filed within three months from the date of occurrence, without compromising on the quality of investigation. Speedy investigation should be conducted in heinous crimes like rape, murder etc. The medical examination of rape victims should be conducted without delay.

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